City of Hamilton  
Public Works Department  
WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

MINUTES

GLANBROOK LANDFILL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Monday, May 30, 2005  
Glanbrook Municipal Centre  
4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS  
Allan Freeman, Chairperson  
Andy Fevez, Vice-Chairperson  
Job Manning  
Brooke Ryan  
Councillor Dave Mitchell

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
Joanne Placko (Resource)

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF CANADA CORPORATION  
Ron Wright (Resource)

CITY OF HAMILTON, WASTE MANAGEMENT (RESOURCES)  
Mike Stelmach, Waste Collections  
Craig Murdoch, Manager of Waste Disposal  
Dave Kerr, Supervisor of Landfills  
Frank Falcone, Project Manager, Landfills

NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
Annie Michaud

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC  
Stan Tufford, Gayle Tufford, Ozzie Meloche, Jerry Smith, Fred Zimmerman, Lorie Bunker, Gary Birch, Frank Weinhardt, Lloyd Davies, Sheila May, Don Barlow, George Voolich, Glanbrook Gazette

REGRETS:

CITY OF HAMILTON, WASTE MANAGEMENT  
Beth Goodger, Director of Waste Management

Approval of Previous Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of February 28, GLCC meeting were moved by Brooke Ryan and seconded by Andy Fevez.

Allan Freeman welcomed members of the committee and the public. Since the majority of the public present at the meeting was there to discuss bulk collection issues the meeting agenda was rearranged for item 1 to be Bulk Collection.
AGENDA ITEMS

1. Bulk Waste

Craig Murdoch provided an overview of how the recent spring bulk collection week (10 days bulk collection in total) worked out. It was an overwhelming success; 4,000 tonnes of material this year was picked up compared to last year’s 2,000 tonnes.

In the future the City will be looking at different ways to accommodate bulk waste. Due to doubling of material at the transfer stations in comparison to last year the City found it difficult to handle the quantities as the waste was piling up on the floor of the transfer stations quicker than it could be removed. As a result, WMCC worked late to keep it off the floor. As well collection crews couldn’t get waste off the streets fast enough; therefore, we contacted the MOE and asked if we could bring collection trucks to the landfill directly. In response the MOE said this was okay and within the C of A for the site to bring packer trucks to the landfill directly.

Collection crews checked bulk at curb to ensure only acceptable waste was being brought to the landfill. Packer trucks went directly to the landfill 3 days of each of the 2 bulk collection weeks; however, on the last day, 4 trucks more than were allowed came into the landfill. This was a result of a breakdown in communication between the City and our contractor. As soon as we found out about the additional trucks through our internal auditing we sent the MOE a letter notifying them. As a result of the auditing we have developed contingencies to ensure this would not recur. For the future we will be looking at sending vehicles to private transfer stations and trying to prevent packer trucks going to the landfill unless absolutely necessary. In 2006 we will be changing the program to bulk call in collection instead of bulk weeks.

Andy Fevez asked how many trucks were allowed to go to the landfill without going to the Transfer Station. Craig said anything taken from the transfer stations to the landfill had to be in transfer vehicles; however, packer trucks that have not visited a transfer station are permitted to go to the landfill directly. The total number of vehicles allowed at the landfill can be a combination of packer and transfer but the total can not be greater than 82 per day. Andy requested a copy of the C of A. Craig mentioned that the City had approval from MOE last year to accept this material and staff checked with the Ministry to ensure this was still the case this year. Allan wasn’t aware that packer trucks went to the landfill but Craig mentioned this did happen last fall and had pre-checked with MOE. Craig said it is not custom for the City to send packer trucks to the landfill but with the bulk events creating mad rushes they tried to deal with the events as effectively as possible. Brook was concerned that it was only the garbage men in the trucks screening the bulk waste at the curb. Craig agreed and mentioned that the bulk packer trucks were not picking up regular (green-bag) garbage and only taking bulk to the landfill and explained it is easier to assess whether or not the waste was acceptable.
AGENDA ITEMS

Brook showed concern that someone could hide battery acid in a stove ready for pick-up at bulk collection. Craig replied that acid could be hidden anywhere including a green garbage bag during regular collection so bulk pick-up isn’t necessarily a loop-hole for unlawful disposal of hazardous waste. It is important to educate people what can go to out to the curb and what cannot so that household hazardous waste does not go to the landfill. Brook replied that there was a trust issue here with the public that landowners thought the wrong thing was being done. Craig responded that bulk waste pick-up would have gone to the landfill regardless of what trucks brought it in. Mike Stelmach replied that he and other City Collections staff officials were policing the bulk pick-up crews to make sure contractors and City collection crews were following the rules. Sorry stickers were put on bulk loads that were not acceptable at the landfill or that exceeded the allowable number of items.

Gary Birch stated that at the time of the hearings for the landfill site back in the late 1970’s there was an understanding that packer trucks would not go to the landfill. The reason being was to reduce the truck traffic at the landfill. Gary said it was never in the C of A to allow this as it could easily get out of control. Gary wondered who changed the C of A to allow this.

Joanne Placko responded to Gary that the City contacted her last fall and again this spring regarding packer trucks going to the landfill. Joanne checked with the MOE District Manager and Approvals Branch and they agreed that there was no wording in the C of A that specified packer trucks collecting from the curb could not go directly to the landfill. Joanne agreed it was okay to bring packer trucks to the landfill provided the total loads were not exceeded. Gary feels that someone has misinterpreted the C of A.

Sheila May was disappointed and had met with Dave Kerr and Justin Readman and had pointed out the supporting documents that make up the C of A. She mentioned that in the Oct 18, 1979 Environmental Assessment final report that the board was of the opinion that Tricil’s trucks (now WMCC’s trucks) should only be going to the landfill and there should be no exceptions to bring unacceptable waste to the landfill. Sheila also cited the Census documents of July 1978 that specified all waste will be hauled from the transfer station to the landfill in totally enclosed 75 cubic yard transfer vehicles. She also quoted the full service waste management agreement of February 1978, which mentioned that the transfer station would accept all acceptable transfer station waste and the Glanbrook landfill receive all acceptable landfill waste transported from the transfer station. All supporting documents to the C of A such as the Synthesis Report, The Transfer Station Study, The Noise Impact Analysis, The Hydrogeologic Study, The environmental appraisal, The Landfill Site Selection Study, The Landfill Design and Operations report, The Landscape Architect Design and The End-use Report were listed.

Joanne mentioned that liquid industrial waste does not go to the landfill. Joanne asked if she could look at the most recent contract that the City has with WMCC since the contract Sheila was quoting was the original Tricil contract with the City and may be out of date.

A member of the public asked how many tonnes of bulk-were accepted at the landfill in excess of the 82 loads. Mike Stelmach answered that approximately at 7-10 tonnes per load it would be 28-40 additional tonnes.
Brooke stated that the City saying they would do their best to not let the situation reoccur is not going to help. We need something stronger in-place, the trust needs to be restored to the people and better procedures are needed.

Dave Kerr added that we have put bulk collection / disposal recommendations in our letter to the MOE addressing the procedures to ensure this does not happen again. For instance we will have someone monitor loads coming into the site as well all correspondence to the contractor will be in writing letting them know what we/they can and cannot do. In 2006 there will be a call in service. Dave also mentioned that the City is not knowingly going to violate something in the C of A.

Councillor Mitchell mentioned that he doesn’t believe the City knowingly broke or intended to break their C of A and he would like the GLCC to pass a motion to have a legal opinion on whether or not bulk waste can go to the landfill or not. Councillor Mitchell discussed the importance of the Community Recycling Centres and that they should be up and running very soon and that an EFW facility is needed.

Councillor Mitchell felt that the GLCC could have been asked ahead of time that bulk collection would occur however he acknowledged that he was notified in advance and the Chairman of the GLCC was also notified in advance. Councillor Mitchell also asked the question as to whether this was legal during a Council meeting. And the response was that staff and politicians were told everything was legal.

Allan Freemen suggested the following motion:

“Make sure the City makes other arrangements for storage of bulk waste ‘till it can be processed through the transfer station, thus removing the need for curbside packer trucks going directly to the Glanbrook Landfill”.

- Councillor Mitchell wanted to add to the above motion that this issue be legally clarified once and for all.
- The motion was moved by Andy Fevez and seconded by Brooke. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

Allan suggested a second motion:

“That the City obtain the C of A from the Ministry and clarify with City legal staff as to what is permitted and what not permitted and brought back to the committee”.

- The Motion was made by Brooke and seconded by Andy. The Motion was carried.

Allan suggested people look at the Britannia Rd landfill and how close people live to it. Councillor Mitchell mentioned the City is pro-active and that he believed we would be looking at using the gas from the landfill to be used as an electrical source that could be sold into the power grid.
AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor Mitchell asked if the soil around the Glanbrook area currently being excavated for various development projects could be used at the landfill site for cover. Dave Kerr mentioned that it was our understanding that it could be brought to the site for Alternative Daily Cover and Interim cover but not for final cover. However, it has to meet certain chemical criteria and be of a quality acceptable to the GLCC criteria (Table B-MOE criteria for Parkland /Residential use in a non-potable situation). The City is trying to focus on plastic as Alternative Daily Cover since it takes up less space.

Councillor Mitchell mentioned there is a lot of clay from the Mount Hope area and it would save us money if local fill can be used.

Dave Kerr advises that the Landfills Project Manager, Frank Falcone, has looked at clay sources in the area and is trying to get free delivery to the site. In the meantime various notifications have been sent to contractors offering free acceptance of clay and internal staff will make us aware if any clay becomes available.

2. International Waste

Dave Kerr provided a brief summary of the International Waste issue. As a result of the public meeting at the Glanbrook Council Chambers on February 7, 2005, a staff recommendation to Council was made to “not accept International Waste at the Glanbrook Landfill”. Council voted in favour of the motion and the issue of dealing with International Waste was forwarded to the Joint Niagara-Hamilton Wasteplan Working Group.

3. Stage 3-Update.

Dave Kerr provided an update on Stage 3. The application to the MOE for Stage 3 re-design and re-engineering is near completion. Dillon Consulting has finalized the Operations and Development report. The City is looking at methane gas recovery and use for energy; however, additional work has to be done to confirm methane quantities.

Sheila had some concerns about the naming of the new cells in Stage 3 so they didn’t conflict with the original cell numbers, i.e. 13, 14 and 15 which were outside of the Stage 3 re-design proposal. Dave Kerr suggested alleviating any confusion with the City re-naming the cells in the Stage 3 re-design proposal.

Sheila May had some previous technical questions on the Dillon report and it was agreed that she would provide Dave Kerr with her questions in advance. Dave received her questions and met with Sheila and Andy at the Glanbrook Community Centre on April 7, 2005 to respond to the questions. Sheila requested that a written response to her questions be provided to her. Dave mentioned that he would prepare a written response and send the answers to Sheila in writing via e-mail.
4. Chlorides

Dave Kerr provided an overview of the status of chlorides. The MOE has provided a letter permitting discharge of ponds 1 and 2 provided the chloride concentration is below 100 ppm and background levels. This is a short term solution; however, the long term solution will be site specific criteria based on assessment of long term averages. Dillon is looking into this assessment on our behalf. The Niagara Conservation Authority as well as the MOE has been in the loop with the progress of this assessment. Ultimately we want to be able to discharge and not haul water off-site if it is of a quality that is as good as or better than the quality of the receiving watercourse. There was some discussion about leachate re-circulation and Craig provided an overview of how a bio-reactor landfill works where leachate is constantly re-circulated. Craig mentioned that the technology is still being developed for larger landfills and would therefore not be applicable at this point in time.

5. Bird Control

A summary was provided by Dave Kerr of the bird control measures that have recently been undertaken. WMCC has been requested to discontinue the services of the falconer at the landfill site since it scares gulls onto neighbouring properties.

There was discussion regarding bird control measures on neighbouring properties and a number of the members and public suggested that landowners obtain a permit to shoot and kill birds.

It was recommended that the City contact Canadian Wildlife Services to determine the best bird control measure. City

A long term plan would be developed by the City in conjunction with WMCC after discussion with Canadian Wild Life Services.

6. New Staff in Waste Management

Craig introduced Frank Falcone as the new Landfills Project Manager and he will be spending a lot of time at the Glanbrook Landfill.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Status of Leachate Mound

Dave Kerr provided an overview of the leachate mound at the landfill and mentioned that since the remedial work undertaken in 2002/2003 the leachate mound has been dropping in most areas of the landfill. The proposed hydraulic connections that were excavated / constructed in the south and east portion of Stage 1 have been successful in dropping the mound in those areas. Cross-sections showing leachate levels in the landfill were handed out. It was mentioned that the cross-sections would be edited at the next meeting to show the most recent leachate levels in comparison to the previous levels.

2. Central Composting Facility

Craig provided a brief update on the Central Composting Facility and that it was on budget and on schedule to be completed early in 2006.
AGENDA ITEMS

3. Waste Reduction Task force Update

Craig provided a short update of the Waste Reduction Task Force activities and at their May meeting there was a presentation and discussion of the RFP for the new Waste Collections Contract.

Next Meeting: August 29, 2005 4:30 p.m. @ Glanbrook Landfill

Minutes prepared by David Kerr, Supervisor of Landfills